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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Before the Examiner:

Achtermann et al.

Todd, Gregory

Serial No.: 09/438,436

Group Art Unit: 2157

Filed: November 12, 1999

IBM Corporation

Title: AN APPARATUS FOR : CONNECTION MANAGEMENT : AND THE METHOD THEREFOR :

11400 Burnet Road Austin, Texas 78758

Intellectual Property Law

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

RECEIVED

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JUN 2 6 2003

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of March 26, 2003 (Paper No. 6), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 26, 2003, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 19, 2003.

Signature

Serena Beller

(Printed name of person certifying)